

This shore abounds in such a number of Rivers that the c. c. Enemy cannot march thro' it in a Line with the Bay and dare to venture thro' it by heading the Rivers: the Ferries & Passages may be easily guarded: I think the Head of Sassafras which is a lofty Part of the Country will be a good Place for Head Quarters.

I wish we had Col. Richardson with us with his Regulars they would give Spirit to the Militia.

We have three Pieces of Cannon here which carry a Ball of 3^{lb} 10^{oz} with about 100 Ball they belong to a Vessel we shall fix them immediately on Carriages & make field Pieces of them. We have 15 Casks of Powder here containing each about 50^{lb} I submit whether an officer of the Train with a few men even half a Dozen to instruct us would not be adviseable

Doctor Bordley who is Lieu^t of the County represents to me that the People were willing to exert themselves and from the Accounts I have from Queen Ann's County they too are equally inclined to defend their Country.

What I can do on the occasion you may be assured shall be done I am determin'd on it and if in the Heat of Zeal I may advise any Extremity out of the strait Line of the Law or our Constitution I hope I shall be excused: as to Extremities from necessity they will need no Apology or Justification. My Plan is to have a respectable Body of Militia arm'd and assembled immediately and I hope no scoundrel of Tory or Traitor will be able to shew his Head or give any Discouragement to our Exertions.

What Assistance you can give us I am sure you will give: My love to all friends.

Y^{rs} Aff^{ly}

W Paca

Sunday 25 Aug. 1777.

Tuesday 26 August 1777.

C. B.

Ordered That the western shore Treasurer pay to Robert Collect Thirteen Pounds Amount of Account.

That the said Treasurer pay to Charles Wallace Howard one hundred Pounds on Account.

That the said Treasurer pay to Samuel Wilson Eighty pounds on Acc^t

Commissions issued to Jeremiah Jordon appointed Col. John Reeder Lieut Col. John Allen Thomas Major, Charles Jordan Cap^t John Eden 1st L^t Samuel Maddox second Lieut Meveral Lock Ensign Gerard Bond Cap^t John Shanks first Lieut. Clement Gardner second L^t Stephen Tarlton Ensign,